



A.D. 1869, 28th JANUARY.

N^o 270.

SPECIFICATION

OF

ROBERT BLACKBEE.

PESSARY.

LONDON:

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1869.



A.D. 1869, 28th JANUARY. N° 270.

Pessary.

LETTERS PATENT to Robert Blackbee, of Norfolk Road, Dalston, in the County of Middlesex, for the Invention of “**AN IMPROVED PESSARY.**”

Sealed the 27th July 1869, and dated the 28th January 1869.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said Robert Blackbee at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 28th January 1869.

I, ROBERT BLACKBEE, of Norfolk Road, Dalston, in the County of Middlesex, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for “**AN IMPROVED PESSARY,**” to be as follows:—

This Invention consists in so constructing a pessary as that by being shaped in direct reference to the anatomy of the pelvis it shall possess from its peculiar construction a double self-acting spring, that is to say, laterally and transversely, thereby presenting the following desirable

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practical advantages:—Upon being introduced “per vaginam” it immediately adjusts itself to the requirements of the case, arrives at a foundation or resting place on the inferior margin of the foramina ovalia, thus giving entire support to the fundus uteri and the cervix uteri without undue pressure on any part, and at the same time leaving 5 the pessary in such a state of freedom and being so light as to render its presence almost unknown to the wearer, at the same time yielding to the movements of the body.

The following is the construction of the above appliance:—In the first place I form a skeleton framework or foundation of properly 10 tempered steel wire so shaped by a series of curves (which curves are formed in direct reference to the anatomical formation of that portion of the pelvis in which it is to be placed) as to render it in a great measure self-adjusting, entirely supporting the prolapsed uterus. This skeleton having been formed is covered with ætherized india- 15 rubber or other suitable substance, that is to say, I take a piece of properly tempered steel wire of suitable length and thickness, and with suitable instruments shape it into proper form. The ends of the wire are left disconnected in order to cover the skeleton thus formed with a soft elastic material or other suitable substance. 20 This I do by inserting one end of the wire into a suitably made tube of ætherized rubber, vulcanized rubber, gutta percha, or other suitable substance, and having drawn on a sufficient length of the material I draw back the ends thereof and unite the ends of the wire; the ends of the covering are then brought together and united, or I unite the 25 ends of the wire first and cover it with the aforesaid material by any other suitable means.

SPECIFICATION in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said Robert Blackbee in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 28th July 1869.

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TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, ROBERT BLACKBEE, of Norfolk Road, Dalston, in the County of Middlesex, send greeting.

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WHEREAS Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters Patent, bearing date the Twenty-eighth day of January, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, in the thirty-second year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said Robert Blackbee, Her special licence that I, the said Robert Blackbee, my executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as I, the said Robert Blackbee, my executors, administrators, and assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term
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10 therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an Invention for “**AN IMPROVED PESSARY,**” upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said Robert Blackbee, my executors or administrators, by an instrument in writing
15 under my, or their, or one of their hands and seals, should particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same was to be performed, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said Letters Patent.

20 **NOW KNOW YE**, that I, the said Robert Blackbee, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement, that is to say :—

This Invention consists in so constructing a pessary as that by being
25 shaped in direct reference to the anatomy of the pelvis it shall possess from its peculiar construction a double self-acting spring, that is to say, laterally and transversely, thereby presenting the following desirable practical advantages :—Upon being introduced “per vaginam” it immediately adjusts itself to the requirements of the case, arrives at a
30 foundation or resting place on the inferior margin of the foramina ovalia, thus giving entire support to the fundus uteri and the cervix uteri without undue pressure on any part, and at the same time leaving the pessary in such a state of freedom and being so light as to render its presence almost unknown to the wearer, at the same time yielding to
35 the movements of the body.

The following is the construction of the above appliance :—In the first place I form a skeleton framework or foundation of properly

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tempered steel wire so shaped by a series of curves (which curves are formed in direct reference to the anatomical formation of that portion of the pelvis in which it is to be placed) as to render it in a great measure self-adjusting, entirely supporting the prolapsed uterus. This skeleton having been formed is covered with ætherized india-rubber or 5 other suitable substance, that is to say, I take a piece of properly tempered steel wire of suitable length and thickness, and with suitable instruments shape it into proper form. The ends of the wire are left disconnected in order to cover the skeleton thus formed with a soft elastic material or other suitable substance. This I do by 10 inserting one end of the wire into a suitably made tube of ætherized rubber, vulcanized rubber, gutta percha, or other suitable substance, and having drawn on a sufficient length of the material I draw back the ends thereof and unite the ends of the wire; the ends of the covering are then brought together and united, or I unite the ends 15 of the wire first and cover it with the aforesaid material by any other suitable means; but I prefer to have the elastic coating detached or loose upon the steel foundation as a tube, as above stated.

And in order that my said Invention may be better understood I will now proceed to describe the Drawing accompanying these presents 20 illustrative of the construction of my improved pessary.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING.

Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my improved pessary complete shewing the peculiar shape thereof in accordance with the anatomy of the part to which it is to be applied, as above stated; Figure 2, a 25 perspective side view of the pessary shewing a portion of the elastic covering removed at *, *. A marks the tempered steel wire or foundation; B, elastic tube or covering, or there may be two or more tubes passed one over the other; C, D, and E, G, mark the more flexible or yielding parts of the pessary when pressed against, constituting in 30 fact a double self-acting spring, yielding to the movements of the body, as above stated.

Having now fully described and set forth the nature and object of my said Invention for "An Improved Pessary," together with the best means I am acquainted with for carrying the same into practical effect, 35 I would remark in conclusion that what I claim as my Invention

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intended to be secured to me by the herein-before in part recited Letters Patent is, covering the foundation of a pessary with one or more tubes of india-rubber, gutta percha, or other suitable substance in the manner above described with reference to the accompanying Drawing.

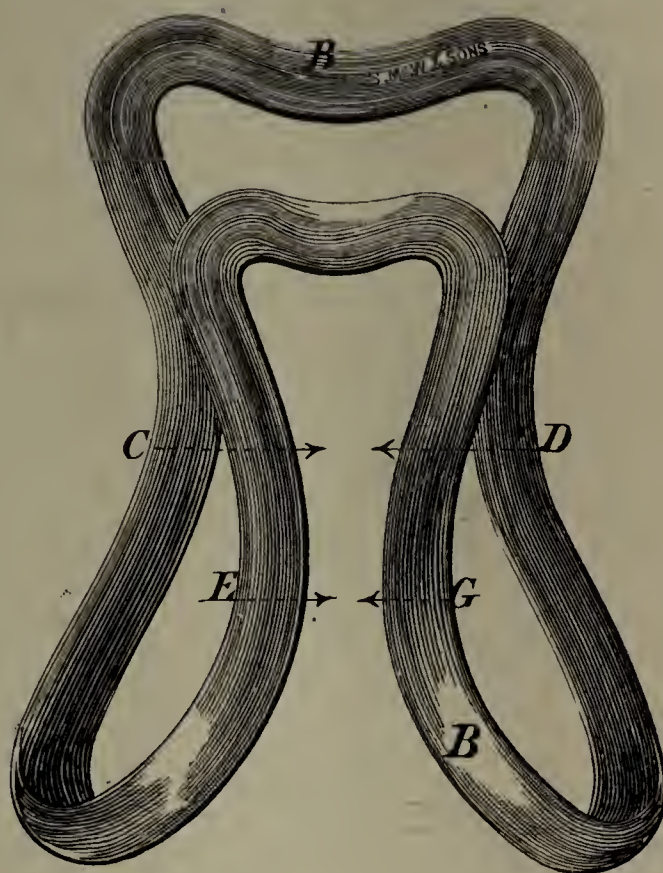
5 In witness whereof, I, the said Robert Blackbee, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Twenty-seventh day of July, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine.

ROBERT BLACKBEE. (L.S.)

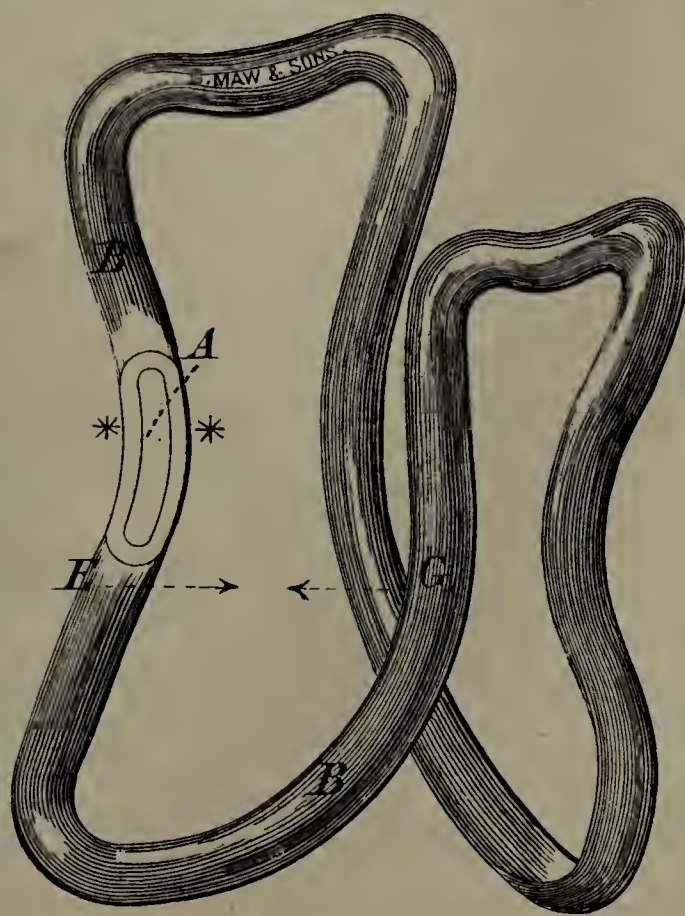
LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1869.

F I G. 1.



F I G. 2.



The filed drawing is not colored.

Drawn on Stone by Malby & Sons.

